

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A product shelf life monitoring system comprising an
5 active substituted diacetylenic monomer component indicator
composition is responsive to an integral of varying temperature
over time to effect a solid state polymerization in the active
monomer which results in a visible change in color density or
the like at a rate designed to closely approximate the
10 degradation, or shelf life, of an associated foodstuff or
medicament product. The reactivity of the monomer component upon
which the time-temperature integral of the indicator
composition, and thus the represented shelf life, primarily
depends may be readily varied by refluxing a solution of the
15 monomer in a selected solvent for a predetermined time prior to
recrystallization of the monomer for incorporation into the
indicator composition.

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